Report of Economic Advisory Council on Productive Employment

*116. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Economic Advisory Council has submitted its interim report, suggesting a strategy for generating productive employment, supported by the growth of labour-intensive manufactured exports;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the report; and

(c) what is Government's reaction to each of the suggestions and the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN): (a) to (c) The Economic Advisory Council has in its Interim Report reocmmended a strategy in which agriculture plays a major role in generating productive employment, supported by the growth of labour intensive manufactured exports; the role of large industrial sector is to provide efficiently produced, low cost tools and intermediates based on which a higher level labour productivity can be reached in the economy as a whole without generating additional pressure on balance of payments or prices. According to the Report, the major objective of the policies in the present decade should be, among other things, expansion of production in agro-based industries, improvement in the efficiency of the use of fertiliser and water in agriculture and energy in the whole economy, a strategy for wider dispersal of small scale industries and improvement in their efficiency, laying down priorities in technology upgradation and modernisation in terms of capital goods, intermediate goods, infrastructure and consumer goods, improvement in the provision and spread of infrastructure and basic industries along with improvement in quality of services and reduced costs, maintaining the tempo of growth in exports, promotion of greater competitiveness of Indian exports and restructuring of industrial investment in favour of efficient export earning sectors like garments, leather manufactures and agro-based items so as to help in reducing the import intensity of exports and promote further industrial employment.

The Eighth Plan, the Approach to which is under finalisation and which envisages employment to be the central thrust of development strategy, would take note of the suggestions made in the Interim Report.

Steps for keeping Delhi Pollution Free

*117. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Pollution Control Board is spending huge amounts to keep Delhi Pollution free as compared to other cities in the country; yet Delhi is considered to be one of the worest polluted cities in the world;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have taken or propose to take any steps to keep Delhi pollution free; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The Central Pollution Control Board, in addition to its overall coordinating role for the country, also functions as the State Pollution Control Board for the Union Territories, which includes Delhi. The role of the State Pollution Control Boards in their respective jurisdictions is to notify, monitor and enforce standards under the pollution control legislation. The execution of pollution control measures is the responsibility of the polluting units. The industrial units and the municipal bodies which discharge pollutants have to arrange their own resources